

REMARKS

This amendment is responsive to the Advisory Action dated October 27, 2005. Applicant has amended claims 1, 9 and 17. Claim 22 has been cancelled. Claims 1-21 are pending.

Claim Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

In the Advisory Action, the Examiner asserted the rejection of claims 1-21 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maritzen (U.S. Pub. No. US 2002/0073042 A1) in view of Bolle et al. (US 6,819,219 B1) and Etzel et al. (US 6,577,734 B1). The Examiner also asserted the rejection of claim 22 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maritzen in view of Bolle et al. and Etzel et al. and in further view of Rydbeck et al. (US 6,195,564 B1).

Applicant continues to disagree with the Examiner's rejections of the pending claims based upon the provided references. Accordingly, Applicant does not acquiesce to any of the Examiner's rejections or characterizations of the prior art, and reserves the right to present additional arguments with respect to one or more features of the claims not specifically addressed herein.

Nonetheless, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 9 and 17 to include elements of dependent claim 22. Independent claims 1, 9 and 17 now include the limitations of a policy manager component that directs the workstation to blank the screen when a new personal digital identifier device is detected at a location within the envelope until such time as the user registered to said personal digital identifier device is biometrically identified.

With further regard to the new limitations of independent claims 1, 9 and 17 as amended, Rydbeck fails to describe the requirements of these claims. With respect to these requirements, the Examiner states that Rydbeck discloses "returning to a standby state/ blanking out a screen." and relies on col. 6, ll. 41-65. Applicant believes that the Examiner has misinterpreted either the claimed invention or the prior art of Rydbeck et al.

Contrary to Applicant's claims, the portion of Rydbeck relied upon the Examiner describes a method for establishing a wireless link between a laptop computer and a wireless phone. According to Rydbeck, prior to establishing the link, the laptop computer starts in a standby state (col. 6, ll. 41). According to Rydbeck, the standby state "is a low power standby state, in which each device periodically or randomly and temporarily powers on its link

transceiver to listen for page signals" (col. 4, ll. 57-59). If a predetermined amount of time elapses and no paging signal is received from the phone with which the link is being established, the laptop returns to the standby state (col. 6, ll. 41-50). Thus Rydbeck merely refers to returning to a standby state when communication cannot be established.

Returning to a standby mode upon failure to establish a connection when no signal is detected from a remote device is completely different from actively blanking out a screen during communication with a first device when an unauthorized second device is detected within an envelope, as required by the amended claims. Accordingly, Rydbeck fails to teach or suggest communication with a personal digital identifier device and blanking out a screen when a second personal digital identifier device moves to a location within said envelope of the workstation, as required by the amended claims.

For at least these reasons, the Examiner has failed to establish a prima facie case for non-patentability of Applicant's claims 1-21, as amended, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

CONCLUSION


All claims in this application are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt allowance of all pending claims. Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 50-1778. The Examiner is invited to telephone the below-signed attorney to discuss this application.

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